

## SMOKE SIGNALS

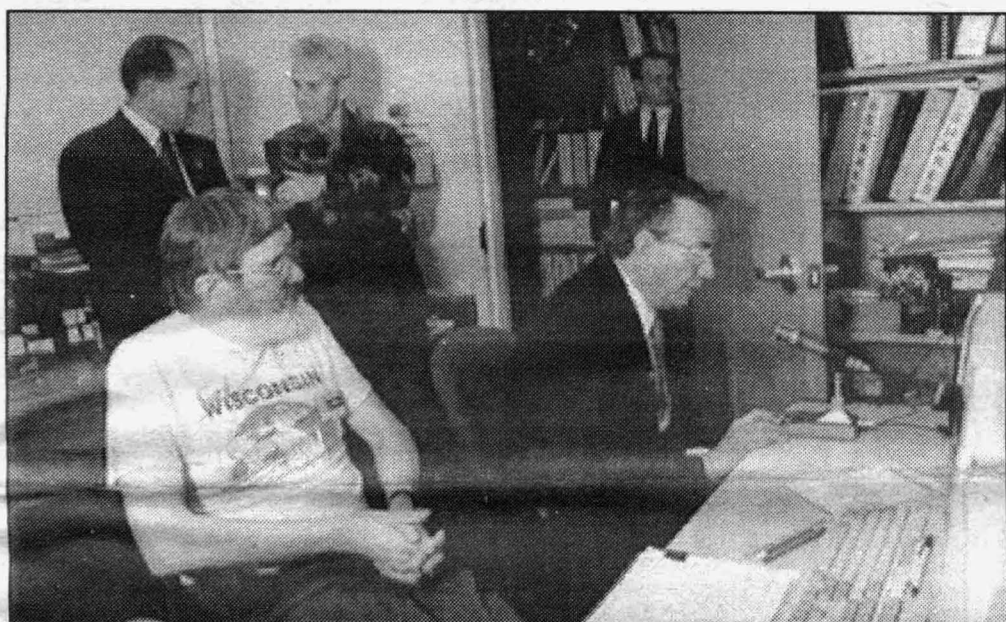
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Wisconsin prepares for Y2K;  
governor addresses hams

By Daniel Gomez-Ibanez, W9NXX



Wisconsin Governor Tommy G. Thompson talks with Section Emergency Coordinator/RACES Radio Officer Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR, on 40 meters from the State Department of Emergency Management on December 16. Next to the governor is control operator Sam Rowe, KN9NG. Behind are Ed Gleason, Administrator, Wisconsin Emergency Management talking with Major General James Blaney, Wisconsin's Adjutant General.

Like all states, Wisconsin is preparing for possible disruptions in public services on December 31 - January 1. Hams across the state have been recruited by public service agencies, utilities, hospitals, and local governments. On December 16, Governor Tommy Thompson and his cabinet visited the headquarters of the Wisconsin Division of Emergency Government to review Y2K preparedness. The Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM) radio room combines RACES station WC9AAG with FEMA HF radio equipment and other HF, VHF, and satellite communications. The radio room has long been manned by hams. Mack Brophy, N9NTB, is the volunteer in charge.

A day before the governor's visit, his staff asked if he could speak to Wisconsin Amateur Radio operators who were involved in Y2K. Sam Rowe, KG9NG, the EC for Dane County, agreed to serve as control operator at WC9AAG, along with Daniel Gomez-Ibanez, W9NXX. Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR, Section Emergency Coordinator and RACES Radio Officer for Wisconsin, and Don Michalis, W9IXG, SM, put out the word on HF nets that the governor would be on the air from the WEM radio room sometime Wednesday morning (Dec. 16). Unfortunately, his schedule did not permit him to

get on the air at noon, when the Badger Emergency Net meets on 3.985 MHz. But in spite of the short notice, many Wisconsin hams managed to congregate on 7.285 MHz for Tommy's QSO with WB9RQR, and several others at about 11:30 a.m.

It was definitely a success. No stranger to microphones, Governor Thompson knew exactly what to do when KG9NG invited him to talk. He spoke at length, thanking the hams who were listening (many of them members of ARES and RACES) for their contributions and their volunteer spirit.

The governor clearly was impressed and also intrigued by the experience. He stayed in front of the radio for quite a while. His "handlers" and staff hovered in the background, expecting him to hurry away. But he didn't. He stayed to hear the check-ins and greetings from hams around the state. And as each ham announced his town or county, it was obvious that the Governor understood (and was delighted) that the circuit he had just used had connected him to the whole length and breadth of Wisconsin.

A technical note: We were using the WEM radio room's Kenwood TS-440 barefoot into a vertical antenna on the roof of the two-story building. □

Boy Scout Troop 536 and the  
West Allis Radio Amateur Club's  
1999 Jamboree on the Air

By Jay Kempinger, KA9NKA

Excitement and enthusiasm sparked from both ends of the coax at this year's Jamboree on the Air, JOTA. For those who braved the foul weather, the 10-meter band opened to a World of Ham Radio, filled with JOTA stations all anxious to make contact.

Jamboree on the Air is an annual event

that brings together Boy Scouts and Ham Radio operators, worldwide, for an exciting weekend of communicating by amateur radio.

At Kulwicki Park in Greenfield, Wisconsin, hot coffee and cocoa helped to stimulate the group into action in spite of the wind and cold misting rain. Volunteers from

Please turn to page 6



This is the JOTA/WARAC HF station. Newly licensed hams Kate Connell, KB9VGH, and Jayson Kempinger, KB9VGF, coach a prospective ham. In the background are other visitors looking at displays.

Photo by Phil Gural, W9NAW

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Happy New Year!





# WHAT'S HAPPENING

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✕ Amateur Radio Exam Schedules

Edited by Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901 • kebnetter@palacenet.net

## Swapfests

### and Other Social Events

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 2000** 28th Midwinter Swapfest Waukesha Co. Expo Center Forum, Waukesha, WI Contact: WARAC Swapfest, P. O. Box 1072, Milwaukee, WI 53201, or call Phil, W9NAW, (414) 425-3649. www.warac.org.

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 2000** South Bend Hamfest, South Bend, IN Contact: Michiana Valley Hamfest Association, 21970 Kern Road, South Bend, IN 46614.

**FEBRUARY 22, 2000** Red Cedar Repeater Association Auction American Legion Post 53 634 Water St., Eau Claire WI Information: Steve Hart, KA9OMC (715) 665-2374.

**SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 2000** SEWFARS Swapfest 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., setup starts at 6 a.m. Amateur Radio license exams. Information: (414) 835-7035.

**SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 2000** Wisconsin QSO Party Info: www.warac.org

**SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 2000** Hamfest Y2K Jefferson County Fairgrounds Tri-County Amateur Radio Club (920) 563-8740 tricountyarc@globaldialog.com

**SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 2000** NSRCfest a/k/a/ LAMARSfest Lake County Fairgrounds Grayslake, IL 6 a.m. setup, open at 8 a.m. Amateur Radio exams Web: www.nsrc.org Email: jaf@lwt.net Phone: (847) 291-4160

**FRIDAY, APRIL 7 and SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 2000** Milwaukee AES Superfest 2000

**SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 2000** Rochester Hamfest and Computer Show Olmsted County Fairgrounds Rochester, MN Doors open at 8 a.m. Info: http://members.aol.com/rarchams (507) 285-6522

**SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 2000** Madison Swapfest Mandt Community Center, 4000 Mandt Parkway, Stoughton, WI Doors Open: 8 a.m. Information: (608) 245-8890. **SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2000** Ozaukee Radio Club 22nd Annual Radio and Computer Swapfest 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Circle B Recreation Center Int. of Hwys 60 and Cty. 1 Examinations by Badger Examiners, Gary Sharbuno, 5119 W. Willow Rd., Brown Deer, WI 53222. Information: ORC, 1702 Holly Lane, Grafton, WI 53024.

**SATURDAY, MAY 13, 2000** Lakeshore Hamfest and Computer Swapfest Manitowoc County Expo ManCoRad Radio Club Info: Dick, N9QFY, (920) 682-9264 P.O. Box 204, Manitowoc WI 54221-0204

**MAY 19 - 21, 2000** Dayton Hamvention. and ARRL National Convention Dayton, OH Information: (937) 276-6930 weekdays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Web: http://www.hamvention.org Email: info@hamvention.org Advance registration: (937) 276-6930 or tickets@hamvention.org

**SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 2000** W9EAU Hamfest, Eau Claire, WI Information: Jim Staatz, KG9RA, P.O. Box 1867, Eau Claire WI 54702-1867 (715) 838-9108 Info: Jim Staatz, kg9ra@arrrl.net

**SATURDAY, JULY 8, 2000** Hamfest 00 South FOX CITIES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Milwaukee Amateur Radio Club American Legion Park, Oak Creek Info: Verne at (414) 762-3235

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 2000** Circus City Swapfest Sauk County Fairgrounds, Baraboo, WI Circus City Swapfest Info

As a service to our readers, this section is available without charge to list your upcoming swapfest, hamfest, dinner, picnic, party or other event of interest to Radio Amateurs in Wisconsin and nearby areas. Send information

on your event to kebnetter@palacenet.net.



## CLUB MEETINGS

Due to space limitations, we cannot always carry the full listing of Wisconsin and area club meetings. Please see the October 1999 meetings column for the latest complete listing. The following changes have been reported to BSSS since that listing.

If your club has no listing, or the latest listing is incorrect, please contact K9EN at the address shown on page 2. QCWA - WISCONSIN CHAPTER #55

Contact Treasurer, Ted Stiller, WA9RDI, 4648 N 90th St., Milwaukee, WI 53225, for information about meeting dates or joining QCWA Chapter #55. The Wisconsin Chapter holds Spring and Fall dinner meetings on the first Saturday of June and October.

## The Test Point



### Amateur Radio Examination Locations and Schedules in the Wisconsin Area

January 08, 2000	Blaine, MN
January 08, 2000	Eau Claire, WI
January 08, 2000	Madison, WI
January 08, 2000	Sheboygan, WI
January 13, 2000	Apple Valley, MN
January 15, 2000	Cottage Grove, MN
January 15, 2000	Loves Park, IL
January 15, 2000	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
January 18, 2000	Eden Prairie, MN
January 22, 2000	Appleton, WI
January 22, 2000	Bloomington, MN
January 29, 2000	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
January 29, 2000	Tomahawk, WI
February 05, 2000	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
February 05, 2000	Racine, WI
February 05, 2000	St. Paul, MN
February 10, 2000	Apple Valley, MN
February 12, 2000	Blaine, MN
February 12, 2000	Madison, WI
February 15, 2000	Eden Prairie, MN
February 19, 2000	Cottage Grove, MN
February 19, 2000	Oshkosh, WI
February 19, 2000	Loves Park, IL
February 19, 2000	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
February 26, 2000	Bloomington, MN
February 26, 2000	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
February 26, 2000	Tomahawk, WI
March 04, 2000	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
March 04, 2000	Racine, WI
March 04, 2000	St. Paul, MN
March 09, 2000	Apple Valley, MN
March 11, 2000	Blaine, MN
March 11, 2000	Madison, WI
March 18, 2000	Cottage Grove, MN
March 18, 2000	Loves Park, IL
March 18, 2000	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
March 21, 2000	Sheboygan, WI
March 21, 2000	Eden Prairie, MN
March 25, 2000	Appleton, WI
March 25, 2000	Bloomington, MN
March 25, 2000	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
March 25, 2000	Tomahawk, WI
April 22, 2000	Oshkosh, WI
May 13, 2000	Manitowoc, WI
May 20, 2000	Sheboygan, WI
July 18, 2000	Sheboygan, WI
October 21, 2000	Oshkosh, WI
September 09, 2000	Appleton, WI
September 16, 1999	Sheboygan, WI

## Badger State Smoke Signals

### Amateur Radio Education and Information

**CHAIRMAN:** Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901. Telephone (608) 742-3560. kebnetter@palacenet.net

**EDITOR:** Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ, 412½ Ash Street, Baraboo, WI 53913. Telephone (608) 356-4031. smokesigs@baraboo.com

**TREASURER:** Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage WI 53901.

**EDITORIAL BOARD:** Ken Ebnetter, K9EN; Don Evenson, K9JYX; Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ.

### Subscriptions

1 year	(12 issues)	\$13.95
2 years	(24 issues - save \$1.95)	\$25.95

Subscription form is on page 5. Special club package reduced rates are available. For information, contact Ken Ebnetter, K9EN.

### When to Send It

The closing date for each issue is the first of the month for the next month's issue. For example, the closing date for the June issue is May 1. The only exception is for participating clubs' minutes. Participating clubs are requested to send their material no later than FIVE DAYS after the club's meeting. For example, if a club meets on the 4th of the month, the material should be sent no later than

the 9th of that month. This material is to be sent to the Editor.

### Where to Send It

Address changes and corrections, and exchange papers should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

Editorial material, photographs, and feature articles should be sent to Jim Romelfanger.

Inquiries about advertising should be directed to Ken Ebnetter. Club, swapfest, and Test Point information should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

Swapfest ADS should be sent to Jim Romelfanger NO LATER THAN EIGHT WEEKS BEFORE THE EVENT'S DATE.

Subscriptions should be sent, with check or money order, to Ken Ebnetter.

### Conditions for Reprinting or BBS Posting Material from Badger State Smoke Signals

Permission is hereby granted to reprint articles or posting articles on radio or telephone bulletin boards from *Badger State Smoke Signals*, providing credit is given to the original author, publication in which the article first appeared, and to *Badger State Smoke Signals*. THIS CREDIT IS MANDATORY, AND NO MATERIAL MAY BE PRINTED OR POSTED UNLESS IT IS GIVEN.

This newspaper is produced by volunteer radio amateurs, and is non-profit. This newspaper is mailed from Portage, WI 53901.

*Badger State Smoke Signals* is incorporated as a Wisconsin non-stock, non-for-profit organization.

### Editorial Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in editorials, guest editorials, columns, articles, and letters from readers are the opinions of the authors only, and do not, unless otherwise stated, express or imply endorsement by *Badger State Smoke Signals*, or by any other individual or organization.

November 05, 2000 Kaukauna, WI  
 November 21, 2000 Sheboygan, WI  
 December 16, 2000 Oshkosh, WI  
 January 27, 2001 Appleton, WI  
 Monthly, 1st Sat. Racine, WI  
 (except January, July & August)  
 Monthly, 1st Sat. Oshkosh (Omro), WI  
 Monthly, 1st Sat. St. Paul, MN  
 Monthly, 2nd Thu. Apple Valley, MN  
 Monthly, 2nd Sat. Madison, WI  
 Monthly, 2nd Sat. Blaine, MN  
 Monthly, 3rd Tue. Eden Prairie, MN  
 Monthly, 3rd Sat. Milwaukee, WI (BE)  
 Monthly, 3rd Sat. Loves Park, IL  
 Monthly, 3rd Sat. Cottage Grove, MN  
 Monthly, 4th Sat. Bloomington, MN  
 Monthly, Last Sat. Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)  
 (except December)  
 Monthly, Last Sat. Tomahawk, WI  
 (January thru October only)  
 Quarterly Eau Claire, WI  
 (Second Saturday Jan., Apr., &  
 Oct.)  
 plus annual summer hamfest.)

#### GENERAL RULES FOR MOST EXAMINATIONS

Be sure to check with sponsors before going to an examination session. There may be changes and/or errors in the dates or information given. Some examinations require filing an FCC or NCVEC Form 605 and advance registration at least 30 days before the exam date.

Some VE teams permit walk-ins. Check with the sponsor.

Many hamfests and swapfests offer examinations. A hamfest entrance fee should not be charged if you come only to attend the examination.

To register in advance, you must get a copy of the current FCC Form 605, and fill it out completely and correctly. Got your form from the FCC as instructed below, or from the American Radio Relay League, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111. Please send an SASE if you request a form from the League. FCC Field Offices seldom stock forms. You can also get a form from

<http://www.fcc.gov/formpage.html>

or

<ftp://ftp.fcc.gov/pub/Forms/Form605>.

A form by FAX is available at (202) 418-0177 (request Form 000605). The FCC Forms Distribution Center will accept orders at (800) 418-3676.

Form 605 has a main form, plus a Schedule D with two parts (for Vanity and Physician's Certifications). Forms can also be obtained from the sponsoring group.

ARRL/VEC examinations require a check for \$6.45 payable to "ARRL/VEC". Exam fees change annually. See QST, WIAW bulletins, or The ARRL Letter regarding any annual exam fee changes.

(The FCC has announced that the maximum Amateur Radio examination fee reimbursement that Volunteer Examiners and Volunteer Examiner Coordinators can collect during calendar year 2000 is \$6.66. The ARRL/VEC has set its 2000 test fee at \$6.65. Per ARRL/VEC policy, there is no examination charge for those taking only Elements 1A or 2. A \$6.65 fee will be collected from applicants seeking to upgrade using a physician's certification to waive the Morse code examination. — Bart J. Jahnke, W9JJ in The ARRL Letter)

FCC requires applicants to show their original amateur license or CSCE to the VE team. You must also have a good copy of your license or CSCE. A copy of your license or CSCE must be attached to your FCC form 605 and most VE teams need a copy for their records. One good CSCE copy is sufficient. You are also required to have a photo ID, or two other forms of ID. Contact the VE team for details.

Technician class licensees must show proof of testing before March 21, 1987, in order to upgrade to General with a code test only. Proof must be either in the form of a pre-3/21/87 license document or a "Letter of Verification of Technician License Held Prior to 1987" as requested in writing from the FCC, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245.

For those with internet access, a listing of exam sessions is available from:

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/examsearch.phtml>

By checking this page, you can find registered VE sessions anywhere in US and some overseas. You can search by country, state or zip code. The listing is not specific to any particular VEC. It is a master database.

Thanks to Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, ARRL/VEC

#### MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS CLUB (MRAC/VEC) MILWAUKEE

Last Saturday, except June, July, and August, 9:30 a.m. to noon at Amateur Electronic Supply (AES), 5710 W. Good Hope Road, Milwaukee. For additional information, call (414) 797-797- MRAC (answering machine) or (414) 797-6722. Bring along your original license, CSCE (if any), and one (1) good quality photocopy of each, plus two forms of identification, such a driver's license, etc. Also required is \$6.40 for the exam fee. Walk-ins are welcome. To register in advance, use a post card: Print the grade of license you are applying for, your name, address, and telephone number, and send the card to MRAC/VEC, Milwaukee Radio Amateurs Club, PO Box 25707,

Milwaukee, WI 53225.

#### BADGER EXAMINERS (BE) - MILWAUKEE

Every third Saturday morning, 9:30 a.m. to noon. Badger Examiners group tests at AES (Amateur Electronic Supply) at 60th and Good Hope, Milwaukee. Exams are given at the old Sterman Printing shop, just 300 feet west of the AES store. Novice to Extra are offered, and all test materials are provided. Fee is \$6.35, and bring your original license, or CSCE if needed.

Also available are Commercial license exams GROL (General Radiotelephone license), GMDSS, Telegraph, Etc. Fee is \$35.00. For more information call Gary Sharbuno, WI9M at (414) 355-0237.

#### MADISON, WI

Every second Saturday morning at 8 a.m. VE exams are held in Madison. They are held at the operations building of the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District at 1610 Moorland Rd. Directions: Take the Beltline (Hwy 12 and 18) to South Towne Drive. Go south 8/10 mile until South Towne Drive makes a bend and becomes Moorland Road and enter at gate. You should bring a picture ID, your original license and a copy of your license. For exams beyond the novice tests, bring a check for \$6.35, made out to the ARRL/VEC. If the special 610 form with the medical exemption is required, contact me beforehand to obtain one. No appointments are necessary to take exams. For further questions, please leave a message on the mailbox or phone me at (608) 832-6631.

Mark Jenks, NZ9B

#### MENOMONIE, WI

Saturday, November 6, 1999: The Menomonie area hams will conduct VE exams for all classes of licenses. The location will be the U.W.-Stout Communications Center, 820 South Broadway, Menomonie Wisconsin. Walk-ins only. Arrive between 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. For information, contact Jim Ley, NX9F, 715-232-1397 (W)

#### STEVENS POINT, WI - ARRL/VEC

ARRL Exams in Stevens Point, Time: 0930. Place: A107 Science Building, on campus at UWSP (corner of Fourth and Reserve streets) For more information contact Joe Larson, N9JW, at 715- 344-1182 evenings or email to joel8@bigfoot.com.

#### RACINE, WISCONSIN - ARRL/VEC

Monthly - first Saturday, except January, July, and August. Monthly exams are given 9 to 11 a.m. at the Faith United Methodist Church, 1013 Harmony Drive, Racine. Walk-ins are permitted. Talk in on 147.87/27. Inquiries and registrations should be directed to Robert N. Jensen, W0WLN, 5616 Cambridge lane #6, Racine, WI. Telephone (414) 886-8551.

#### TOMAHAWK, WI

Last Saturday of every month. Jan. thru Oct. Tomahawk

Volunteer Examiners (ARRL/VEC). Tomahawk, WI. No advance registration required, but appointment would be appreciated. Registration at 8:30 a.m. and testing starts at 9:00 a.m. For location or other information, inquire on 145.43 MHz. repeater or contact: Terry Collins, KB9AUP, W6564 Highway 8, Tomahawk, WI 54487. Telephone (715) 453-4633.

#### APPLETON, WI - ARRL/VEC MANITOWOC, WI (HAMFEST) KAUKAUNA, WI (HAMFEST)

Conducted by the Fox Cities ARC VE team. All test sessions in Appleton are held at James Madison Jr. High, 2020 S. Carpenter Street. Testing starting at 8 a.m. For Appleton information, contact George R. Croy, W9MDP, 2113 Twin Willows Drive, Appleton, WI 54914. (920) 730-0967. For Manitowoc or Kaukauna information, contact Larry Siebers, KD9IA (920) 759-1167.

#### OSHKOSH (OMRO)

The Oshkosh VE Team will administer Amateur Radio exams monthly on the first Saturday. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and exams will be given from 9 a.m. until noon at the Omro Community Center, 130 W. Larrabee, Omro, WI. Walk-ins welcomed. Bring a good quality photocopy of your original license and any other necessary documents such as a CSCE, etc. The first session will be through W5YI/VEC, and then sessions will alternate between ARRL/VEC and W5YI/VEC. The exam fee is \$6.35. For more information, please call Dick Lemme, K9FA, at (920) 235-0987, e-mail lemme@vbe.com, or write Dick at 826 Jefferson Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901.

OSHKOSH, WI (R.A.W.) - (W5YI/VEC)  
 October 16, 1999, December 18, 1999. Sponsored by

Radio Amateurs of Wisconsin (R.A.W.) Testing sessions at UW Oshkosh, College of Nursing Building, 845 Algoma Blvd., Room 211, Oshkosh, WI. Park free in lot 29 on side of building or in lot 25 behind the building. Registration start at 9 a.m. \$6.35 per test. Bring 2 forms of id etc. Walk-ins are welcome. Contact: Mark Miller, N9WT, (920) 231-1662 or Mike O'Conner, K9II (920) 231-7093.

#### EAU CLAIRE, WI

The Eau Claire ARC will hold exam sessions on the second Saturday in the months of January, April, and October, as well as on the date of their annual hamfest during the summer. For more info: Steve Bluem, KA9OMY. (715) 839-6509.

#### SHEBOYGAN, WI EXAMS IN YEAR 2000

SATURDAYS, January 8, May 20, and September 16: 8:30 a.m. registration, 9 a.m. testing. TUESDAYS, March 21, July 18, and November 21: 6:30 p.m. registration, 7 p.m. testing.

All sessions will be held in the Red Cross building, 2023 Erie Avenue, in the main level classroom area. This testing site is handicapped/wheelchair accessible. Pre-registration is appreciated so we don't get caught short of forms and examinations, but walk-ins are welcome. Contact: Art Pahr, K9XJ, N8029 Willow Road, Plymouth, WI 53073-2929. (920) 876-2370. K9XJ e-mail: <k9xj@excel.net>

#### ONALASKA, WI (ARRL/VEC)

The Riverland Amateur Radio Club will hold test sessions at the Onalaska Public Library, 741 Oak Avenue South. registration begins at 9:00 a.m. Please bring two forms of identification and two copies of all original documents, CSCEs, license, etc. For more information contact: Roger Reader, KA9BKK, 526 13th Ave. N., Onalaska, WI 54650. (608) 783-0723.

#### MEDFORD, WI (ARRL/VEC)

Taylor County Area AREC. Registration starts 8:30 a.m., testing starts 9:00 a.m. Location: The conference room in the lower level of the Sheriff's annex to the Taylor County Courthouse, corner of 2nd and Ogden Sts., Medford, WI. Take Ogden St. west off of Hwy. 13 to the courthouse. Park in the lots on the east or south sides of the courthouse or on the street. PLEASE use the entrance on the south side of the courthouse and watch of the signs. Walk-ins welcome. Contact: Tom Hrdina, N9GEN, 2373 Willow Ave., Medford, WI 54451. (715) 748-4054.

#### PEWAUKEE, WI (ARRL/VEC)

First Saturday on months school is in session. Exams held at Waukesha County Technical College Science Building. WCTC is on Highway JJ off Hwy 16 from the East I-94 and Hwy T from West I-94 just north of GE Medical Systems. Handicapped parking is at the rear of the building. Tests start at 9 a.m. and registration ends at 10 a.m. Contact: Al Johnson, AA7CS, (920) 568-0836; Roger Bradley, AA9OJ, (262) 691-3089 or SEWFARS Repeater club c/o Jam Lazachek, KP9GG (262) 650-0724.

#### HUDSON, WI (ARRL/VEC)

Sponsor: St. Croix Valley AR Testing Col. Time: Call for time and walk-in info, Contact: Gregory Miller (715) 386-9857 Location: St. Croix County Emergency Government Center by jail, Carmichael Rd. lower level, Hudson, WI 54016. (Information tnx ARRL Web site)

#### FRIENDSHIP, WI (ARRL/VEC)

Sponsor: Adams County ARC. Location: Adams-Columbia electric Cooperative (Community Room), 410 E. Lake St., Friendship, WI 53934. Contact: Karl Simonson, KB9EQI, (608) 565-6533. kb9eqi@iname.com

#### HAMFEST EXAMS

Cedarburg WI - ORC Hamfest  
 Eau Claire WI - ECARC Hamfest  
 Green Bay WI - ARES Hamfest  
 Hayward WI - Hayward Hamfest  
 Kaukauna WI - Swapfest  
 Manitowoc WI - Lakeshore Hamfest  
 Oak Creek WI - SMARC Hamfest  
 Racine WI - Racine Hamfest  
 Rhinelander WI - NWARC Swapfest  
 Rockford IL - RARC Hamfest  
 Rothschild WI - WVRA Hamfest  
 South Milwaukee, WI - SMARC Hamfest  
 Waukesha WI - KMRA Swapfest  
 Waukesha WI - Midwinter Swapfest  
 Dubuque IA - Hamfest

See the Swapfest column for additional information and contact persons.

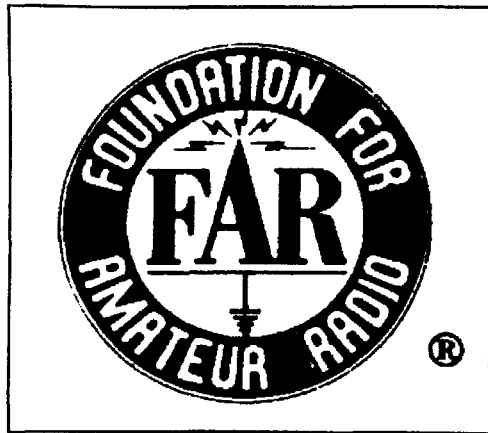
(continued on page 11)

## Foundation for Amateur Radio announces scholarship availabilities

Three Wisconsin clubs are among the donors.

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, Inc., a non-profit organization with headquarters in Washington, D.C., plans to administer seventy-three (73) scholarships for the academic year 2000 - 2001 to assist licensed Radio Amateurs. The Foundation, composed of over seventy-five local area Amateur Radio Clubs, fully funds ten of these scholarships with the income from grants and its annual Hamfest. The remaining sixty-three (63) are administered by the Foundation without cost to the various donors.

Licensed Radio Amateurs may compete for these awards if they plan to pursue a full-time course of studies beyond high school and are enrolled in or have been accepted for enrollment at an accredited university, college or technical school. The awards range from \$500 to \$2500 with preference given in some cases to residents of specified geographical areas or the pursuit



of certain study programs. Clubs, especially those in Delaware, Florida, Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia and Wisconsin, are encouraged to announce these opportunities at their meetings, in their club newsletters, during training classes, on their nets and on their world wide web home pages.

Here are the Wisconsin clubs and their offerings:

### West Allis Radio Amateur Club

WARAC Memorial Scholarships  
Two at \$1000 each

These awards are sponsored by the West Allis Radio Amateur Club of Milwaukee. Applicants must hold an Amateur Radio license, be residents of the state of Wisconsin, pursuing at least an Associate degree. Those seeking graduate degrees are also eligible.

### South Milwaukee Amateur Radio Club

Four at \$500 each

Applicants for the SMARC scholarships must hold an Amateur Radio license and intend to seek an Associate or baccalaureate degree from a college or university in the U.S. Preference will be given to applicants

studying Electrical Engineering or related technology. They may reside in Wisconsin, Illinois or Indiana, with preference given to Wisconsin residents.

### Ozaukee Amateur Radio Club

One at \$1000

This award is available to Wisconsin residents holding any class of Amateur Radio license and pursuing at least a bachelor's degree in any course of study.

Wisconsin amateurs seeking scholarships should apply to FAR for these and other scholarships for which they may be eligible.

Additional information and an application form may be requested by letter or QSL card, postmarked prior to April 30, 2000 from: FAR Scholarships, Post Office Box 831, Riverdale, MD 20738

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, incorporated in the District of Columbia, is an exempt organization under Section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. It is devoted exclusively to promoting the interests of Amateur Radio and those scientific, literary and educational pursuits that advance the purposes of the Amateur Radio Service.

Foundation for Amateur Radio

# AMATEUR AUCTION!

**February 22, 2000 • 7 P.M.**

**American Legion Post 53  
634 Water Street  
Eau Claire, Wisconsin**

**Call-in frequency: 146.01/61 MHz**

**DOORS OPEN AT 6 P.M.**

**ADMISSION: \$3.00, OR PAID 2000 RCRA SUPPORT**

**Sell Your Gear • Mark all Items!  
Club Retains 10% of all sales**

**COFFEE AND SNACKS**

**Not responsible for any loss!**

**COL. BRUCE WALTHER, W9QAH, AUCTIONEER**

**Proceeds to the Red Cedar Repeater Association, Inc.**

**For more information, contact Steve Hart, KA9OMC  
E616 810th Avenue, Knapp, WI 54749 • (715) 665-2374**

## Johnson Space Center Amateur Radio Club offers "remote membership"

The John Space Center Amateur Radio Club, in the NASA complex in Houston, Texas, is offering "remote membership" to anyone wishing to join. The JSARC is the club which, among lots of activities, teaches astronauts to be ham radio operators. The club's call sign is W5RRR.

Membership is \$15 per year. Patches are available as well.

For more information, please contact club secretary Larry Dietrich, at (281) 483-9198, or email him at

<ldietric@ems.jsc.nasa.gov>.

Thanks Kent Castle, NASA/Houston

## Y2K

Though authorities expect little problem as the year rolls from 1999 to 2000, it's possible that there may be isolated problems - and if that happens, Amateur Radio communications may be part of a situation.

This is to request that if your club, group or organization furnishes communications for a problem area, please send a story to *Badger State Smoke Signals*. If photos are available, we'd like to have those as well. (Photo-documenting ham communications is always a good idea anyway.)

If you do standby duty and not much happens, we'd like a short summary of that, too! Yup, pictures, if you get 'em. ("Real" photos are preferred, but medium-resolution digital images are OK.)

Snail to: Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ, editor, *Badger State Smoke Signals*, 412½ Ash Street, Baraboo, WI 53913-2501.

Email: <smokesigs@baraboo.com>.  
Thanks in advance!



# ARRL seeks partial reconsideration of PRB-1 petition denial

The ARRL will ask the FCC to partially reconsider its dismissal of RM-8763, the League's 1996 petition that sought to strengthen and clarify the limited federal preemption policy governing Amateur Radio antennas known as PRB-1. The League also agreed to fund a Florida antenna case with PRB-1 implications.

In its petition, the ARRL wanted the FCC to prevent states and localities from enacting provisions that frustrate the intent of PRB-1 or make it costly to apply for permission to erect an amateur antenna. The FCC dismissed the petition in its entirety November 19 and indicated it was unwilling to go beyond what is already spelled out in PRB-1. "We continue to believe that the standards the Commission set, that is 'reasonable accommodation' and 'minimum practicable regulation', have worked relatively well," the FCC said.

The League will ask the FCC to reconsider two important aspects of the original petition. Meeting December 4 in Texas, the ARRL Executive Committee voted to instruct the League's General Counsel to seek reconsideration of the FCC Order regarding the application of PRB-1 to restrictive covenants and to excessive costs that localities might levy or require in order to install an antenna structure.

In its dismissal, the FCC pointed out that PRB-1 excludes restrictive covenants in private contracts as "outside the reach of our limited preemption." The Commission added, however, that it "strongly encourages associations of homeowners and private contracting parties to follow the principle of reasonable accommodation" with respect to Amateur Radio.

In addressing zoning laws and application costs, the FCC dismissal Order asserted that the PRB-1 principles of "reasonable accommodation" and "minimum practicable regulation" already provide sufficient guidance to communities. Local zoning ordinances should be written so as to "not impinge on the needs of amateur operators to engage in amateur communications," the FCC said.

In a related action, the Executive Committee agreed to have the League fund an appeal in a Florida Amateur Radio tower case. Lenard Persin, WB4HZQ, had applied to Seminole County for a special exception to a 35-foot tower height limit to build an 80-foot tower on his nearly one-acre lot. Initially granted, his application was later denied after a neighbor appealed. Persin appealed in federal court, and the ARRL filed a "friend of the court" brief in the case. On November 2, a US District Court in Florida ruled for the County, saying it had "properly balanced Mr. Persin's interests with the needs of the community."

In its November later dismissing RM-8763, however, the FCC declared that, given the express language of PRB-1, "it is clear that a 'balancing of interests' approach is not appropriate."

ARRL President Rod Stafford, W6ROD, has appointed a committee to study how the ARRL provides support for antenna cases.

The ARRL Letter

Have you considered becoming an ARRL Volunteer Examiner?

If you are 18 or older, and are presently a General, Advanced, or Extra class licensee, the ARRL/VEC would be glad to hear from you. Feel free to contact the ARRL/VEC at (800) 927-7583 and request our Prospective VE Packet. Very 73 to all my friends in Wisconsin!

Bart Jahnke, W9JJ/1, ARRL/VEC Manager

## Nominations open for Maxim Memorial Award

Nominations are open until March 31, 2000, for the 1999 Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Award. The award goes each year to a radio amateur under the age of 21 whose accomplishments and contributions are of the most exemplary nature within the framework of Amateur Radio activities. These include, but are not limited to:

- Participation or leadership in organizational affairs at the local or national level.
- Technical achievement.
- Operating record.
- Recruitment and training of new amateurs.
- Public relations activities.

In keeping with the tradition of the award when it was first established in 1936, formal nominations are made by Section Managers. Supporting information, including the endorsement of ARRL-affiliated clubs and elected or appointed League Leadership officials, should be submitted with the nomination to Jean Wolfgang,

Please turn to page 7

## MFJ TUNERS

### MFJ-989C Legal Limit Antenna Tuner

MFJ uses super heavy duty components to make the world's finest legal limit tuner

MFJ uses super heavy duty components -- roller inductor, variable capacitors, antenna switch and balun -- to build the world's most popular high power antenna tuner.

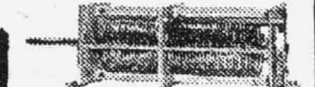
The rugged world famous MFJ-989C handles 3 KW PEP SSB amplifier input power (1500 Watts PEP SSB output power). Covers 1.8 to 30 MHz, including MARS and WARC bands.

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You can match dipoles, verticals, inverted vees, random wires, beams, mobile whips,



shortwave -- nearly any antenna. Use coax, random wire or balanced lines. You get everything you've ever wanted in a high power, full featured antenna tuner -- widest matching range, lighted Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter, massive transmitting variable capacitors, ceramic antenna switch, built-in dummy load, TrueCurrent™ Balun, scratch-proof Lexan front panel -- all in a sleek compact cabinet (10 1/2" W x 4 1/2" H x 15 D in).



MFJ AirCore™ Roller Inductor gives high-Q, low loss, high efficiency and high power handling.

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MFJ No Matter What™ Warranty MFJ will repair or replace your MFJ-989C (at our option) no matter what for one year.

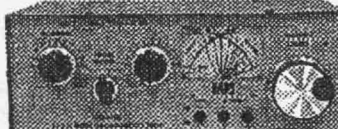
More hams use MFJ tuners than all other tuners in the world!

#### MFJ-986 Two knob Differential-T™



Two knob tuning (differential capacitor and AirCore™ roller inductor) makes tuning foolproof and easier than ever. Gives minimum SWR at only one setting. Handles 3 KW PEP SSB amplifier input power (1.5 KW output). Gear-driven turns counter, lighted peak/average Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter, antenna switch, balun. 1.8 to 30 MHz. 10 1/2" W x 4 1/2" H x 15 in.

#### MFJ-962D compact Tuner for Amps



A few more dollars steps you up to a KW tuner for an amp later. Handles 1.5 KW PEP SSB amplifier input power (800W output). Ideal for Ameritron's AL-811H! AirCore™ roller inductor, gear-driven turns counter, pk/avg lighted Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter, antenna switch, balun, Lexan front, 1.8-30MHz. 10 1/2" W x 4 1/2" H x 10 1/2" D in.

#### MFJ-969 300W Roller Inductor Tuner



Superb AirCore™ Roller Inductor tuning. Covers 6 Meters thru 160 Meters! 300 Watts PEP SSB. Active true peak reading lighted Cross-Needle SWR Wattmeter, QRM-Free PreTune™, antenna switch, dummy load, 4:1 balun, Lexan front panel. 3 1/2" H x 10 1/2" W x 9 1/2" D in.

#### MFJ-949E deluxe 300 Watt Tuner

More hams use MFJ-949s than any other antenna tuner in the world! Handles 300 Watts. Full 1.8 to 30 MHz coverage, 48 position Precision48™ inductor, 1000 Volt tuning capacitors, full size peak/average lighted Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter, 8 position antenna switch, dummy load, QRM-Free PreTune™, scratch proof Lexan front panel. 3 1/2" H x 10 1/2" W x 7 D in.

#### MFJ-941E super value Tuner

The most for your money! Handles 300 Watts PEP, covers 1.8-30 MHz, lighted Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter, 8 position antenna switch, 4:1 balun, 1000 volt capacitors, Lexan front panel. Sleek 10 1/2" W x 2 1/2" H x 7 D in.

#### MFJ-945E HF+6 Meter mobile Tuner

Extends your mobile antenna bandwidth so you don't have to stop, go outside and adjust your antenna. Tiny 8x2x6 in. Lighted Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter. Lamp and bypass switches. Covers 1.8-30 MHz and 6 Meters. 300 Watts PEP. MFJ-20, \$4.95, mobile mount.

#### MFJ-971 portable/QRP Tuner

Tunes coax, balanced lines, random wire 1.8-30 MHz. Cross-Needle Meter. SWR, 30/300 or 6 Watt QRP ranges. Matches popular MFJ transceivers. Tiny 6x6 1/2" x 2 1/2" inches.

#### MFJ-901B smallest Versa Tuner

MFJ's smallest (5x2x6 in.) and most affordable wide range 200 Watt PEP Versa tuner. Covers 1.8 to 30 MHz. Great for matching solid state rigs to linear amps.

#### MFJ-16010 random wire Tuner

Operate all bands anywhere with MFJ's reversible L-network. Turns random wire into powerful transmitting antenna. 1.8-30 MHz. 200 Watts PEP. Tiny 2x3x4 in.

#### MFJ-906/903 6 Meter Tuners

MFJ-906 has lighted Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter, bypass switch. Handles 100 W FM, 200W SSB. MFJ-903, \$49.95, Like MFJ-906, less SWR/Wattmeter, bypass switch.

#### MFJ-921/924 VHF/UHF Tuners

MFJ-921 covers 2 Meters/220 MHz. MFJ-924 covers 440 MHz. SWR/Wattmeter. 8x2 1/2" x 3 inches. Simple 2-knob tuning for mobile or base.

#### MFJ-922 144/440 MHz Tuner

Ultra tiny 4x2 1/2" x 1 1/2" inch tuner covers VHF 136-175 MHz and UHF 420-460 MHz. SWR/Wattmeter reads 60/150 Watts.

#### MFJ-931 artificial RF Ground

Creates artificial RF ground. Also electrically places a far away RF ground directly at your rig by tuning out reactance of connecting wire. Eliminates RF hot spots, RF feedback, TVI/RFI, weak signals caused by poor RF grounding. MFJ-934, \$169.95, Artificial ground/300 Watt Tuner/Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter.

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JANUARY 2000



## The Computer Corner

By Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR • 105 Martin Drive  
Port Washington, WI 53074-9654  
(262) 284-9346  
skaplan@mcw.edu



### No. 74: The Lowly Floppy

Aaah. The lowly floppy. Much maligned and often cursed. However, it is still the fastest, most efficient way to move files from one machine to another, so long as the files are small enough to fit. To move larger amounts of data, the Writable CD-ROM (CD-R) or Rewritable CD-ROM (CD-RW) are gaining a position in the computer world, but as you know if you ever used one, the writing process is slow and somewhat of a pain. You sometimes need to make an image copy of the data first, then a "practice run" at writing, then the actual write. All this can easily eat up 30 minutes to several hours of your precious time. The floppy is still the best for little files.

One way to insure the integrity of the files you are moving using floppies for transfer or storage is to work only with freshly formatted diskettes. After repeated use, a fresh format can prevent your newly added data from being garbled with junk left over from the erased file detritus remaining from past use. A complete format erases everything and rewrites the Boot Record, File Allocation Table and Root Directory as well as marking the boundaries of the tracks and sectors. Oh yes, if there were any viruses on the floppy, formatting it in an uninfected machine will erase the virus, too. Good stuff. Like cleaning out your closet by removing everything, so that you can proceed to neatly stack all your stuff back in when the closet is empty. Doing that to your closet can make more space. Moving files off a floppy, reformatting it, then putting the files back has an added benefit. Any fragmented files - those broken up into non-contiguous pieces - are put back together into continuous files when you copy them back to a newly formatted floppy.

So how do you format a floppy? Well, there are two basic ways, assuming you are using Windows 95 or 98, with a 1.44 MB A: drive. Let's do the Windows one first.

Double click My Computer, then single click the A: drive icon to highlight it. Then click File to get a drop down list, and choose Format. An option window will come up, usually with Quick format selected. Do not choose Quick Format (erase).

If you do, all the old data will still be on the disk after the format is finished! The only thing a quick format does is to change the first character of the old file names to the Greek letter sigma. This permits overwriting of the old data by any new files you copy to the floppy. Until then, the old data is still there, and easily recoverable! Your aim is to really erase every bit of data on the floppy. For that, you must select Full from the format types. Select Full and then click the Start button. On the machine I am using now to type this article, it takes about 1 minute and 52 seconds to format a 1.44 Mb floppy, from the time I click Start to the time the process is finished.

Now, let's do it the easy way. Click Start, then Programs, then MS-DOS Prompt. That will put you into the old command-line DOS configuration; don't worry if all your little icons disappear. Then, at the C:\ prompt, type `FORMAT A: /U` and press the Enter button. When the formatting is done, you will be asked if you want to label the disk, and whether or not you want to format another. When you are finished, type `EXIT` and you will be returned to Windows. On my machine, formatting a disk in this way took only 1 minute and 9 seconds, or about 60% of the time it took to do it in Windows.

When you go to the MS-DOS prompt, you are using native DOS to format the floppy. When you do it through the Graphical User Interface we call Windows, Windows has to make repeated requests to DOS to have each part of the floppy formatted. Hence, the difference in speed, but then we all know that speed is not a hallmark of Windows. The /U switch? Oh yes, the /U switch on the command line tells DOS to Unconditionally format the disk. This means completely rewriting every byte on the floppy, and erasing any garbage that is left over from previous disk use. It is always good practice to start with a clean slate. Happy computing!

Reprinted, by permission, from the ORC Newsletter, *Ozaukee Radio Club*, 101 E. Clay Street, Saukville, Wisconsin 53080-1903 (Skip Douglas, KA9DDN, Editor). □

## ARRL seeks JOTA surveys

Many hams who took part in JOTA (Jamboree on the Air) have sent us their JOTA survey. We have exceeded last year's numbers by over 1,500 scouts! Our current total of scouts who have been exposed to ham radio during JOTA 1999 is 5,570. This year we also logged 1,623 visitors! JOTA grows larger every year. Each scout, leader and visitor is a potential Amateur Radio Operator!

The surveys we receive will help us to determine the needs for JOTA 2000. This year's "JOTA Kit" contained directions for simple building projects and a Morse code game. These were included as a direct result of the 1998 surveys.

We have received surveys from 39 states. (No surveys were received from Wisconsin JOTA operations. There were at least two; please submit surveys. Thanks! - BSSS ed.) I know there are constantly ham radio events in every ARRL section. It would be impossible to keep track of them all! However, if you are aware of JOTA activity which took place in your section, please encourage hams to submit a survey.

The League's JOTA web address is <<http://www.arrl.org/ead/jotalog/>>.

Jean Wolfgang, WB3IOS  
Educational Programs Coordinator  
ARRL Field and Educational Services, ARRL



## WARAC does JOTA 1999

Continued from front page

the West Allis Radio Amateurs Club, W9FK, began the early morning task of raising their "Field Day" antenna (a 40-foot tall rotating dipole). Everyone helped set up tables, power lines, a short wave listening display, and a 2-meter radio station. Tarpaulins were duct-taped and roped into submission against the wind for shelter as the WARAC hams finished the last connections to the Kenwood TS-570D.

There was aura of anticipation as the station went on the air. With WARAC hams at the helm, flanked by scouts, contacts were soon being made. England, the Azores, Bahamas, Martinique, Brazil, Peru, Quebec, Nova Scotia, and many stateside stations were worked. Two newly licensed hams since last year's JOTA, Kate Connell (KB9VGH) and Jayson Kempinger (KB9VGF), nervously made their first HF contacts. Some of the scouts took turns at the HF

microphone while others investigated the 2-meter station for local contacts.

Evening came too soon and our event began to wind down. Being witness to all the excitement at our small station, it was easy to imagine the multitude of other JOTA stations operating that day, and the great time they must have had at the other end of our coax.

Our thanks to the following people who helped make this year's Jamboree possible: The Greenfield Lions Club (who made the use of the Kulwicki Park pavilion possible), Amateur Electronics (who donated the use of the Kenwood TS-570D and a G5RV antenna), Kate Connell (KB9VGH), Louie Golembewski (W9GSV), Phil Gural (W9NAW), Jayson Kempinger (KB9VGF), Tom Macon (K9BTQ), Les Peterson (W9YCV), Wayne Schrubbe (N9RXB), Dave Shank (KA9WXN), Howard Smith (WA9AXQ), Lynn Tamblyn (K9KR), and Jim White (WB9YCS). □



At the two-meter station are, left to right, Boy Scouts Dan Rymaszewski, Jayson Kempinger, KB9VGF, Greg Konkol, and Kate Connell, KB9VGH.

Photo by Phil Gural, W9NAW

<http://www.bsos.org>

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# PARTICIPATING CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

## Mancorad Radio Club

Theresa Hartlaub, KB9KXE,  
Secretary

P.O. Box 204 • Manitowoc, WI  
54221-0204



2-Meter Repeater: 146.01 Input/146.61 Output

### MEETING MINUTES December 8, 1999

The December meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m. by President Fred, W6BSF.

The minutes were approved as published in the *Badger State Smoke Signals* with a motion made by Len, N9QFO, and seconded by Red, N9GHE.

The treasurer's report was given by Roger, W9NPX, and approved by a motion made by Red, N9GHE, and seconded by Chuck, N9WUN.

Everyone was reminded that the dues are due NOW. Please pay Roger, W9NPX.

There will be a discussion at the February meeting about opening a new C.D.

A discussion was held on buying a new repeater as the current one is very old and would be kept for stand by.

President Fred is taking names for a Y2K volunteer list for New Year's eve. Nancy Crowley had contacted us to stand by in case of possible problems. Everyone was reminded to have all HT batteries charged up in case of a power failure. A motion was made and passed that the club purchase two gel-cell batteries for emergencies or portable use.

John, NZ9Z, brought up the fact that our club is a service club and could ring bells for the Salvation Army at Christmas time. Several members volunteered.

Fred, W6BSF, congratulated all the new board members for the upcoming year and thanked all outgoing members for their service.

Fred, W6BSF, made changes on the flyer for our upcoming hamfest, which will be held May 13, 2000. Changes were approved by the club, and Janice, N9IQZ, and Ron, WS9X, will make up a new flyer so we can start circulating them as soon as possible.

Janice, N9IQZ, made up an appreciation certificate for Chuck, W9BZU, for his donation of his lifetime collection of Amateur Radio equipment to the club. Fred,

W6BSF, will present it to him. Thank you, Janice.

An idea of a club newsletter was brought up by Fred, W6BSF. It was decided not to do it because of the cost of postage.

Don, KB9NTL, was presented a certificate by our president for working the sub event (everyone who worked it received one). The next sub event will be April 29 and 30, 2000. A suggestion was made of maybe doing some other special events, such as the car ferry or lighthouse in Two Rivers. Fred will check this out.

The membership drawing was held. N9VIA was drawn but not present. Next month, it will be worth \$7.00. Fred donated a *CQ Magazine* for raffle and it was won by Bob, KB9INK.

Our meeting was adjourned at 8:55 with a motion by Ken, K9HAG, and seconded by John, NZ9Z.

Lunch and refreshments were served and enjoyed by all.

Submitted for approval:  
Theresa Hartlaub, KB9KXE

### MEETING ATTENDANCE

KB9GOY  
W9NPX  
W6BSF  
N4WGX  
W9GXD  
KB9INK  
WS9X  
KB9NTL  
NZ9Z  
N9XEZ  
N9QFO  
K9HAG  
N9WUN  
N9GHE  
N9FVZ  
N9IQZ  
WB9VYO  
KB9GRC  
N9PBL  
Brandon

Mary  
Roger  
Fred  
Denise  
Charles  
Bob  
Ron  
Don  
John  
Bill  
Len  
Ken  
Chuck  
Red  
Dan  
Janice  
Vic  
Tom S.  
Steve  
Guest

## Lakeshore Repeater Association

147.270 MHz • Racine, Wisconsin

Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO • 5400 Six Mile Road  
Racine, WI 53402-9741  
wa9jmo@wi.net

### January Y2K

Your 1999 Board of Directors met with Lakeshore's newly elected officers on December 17th to finalize the transfer of records, funds and duties. With Fern Fisher, W9LCJ, and Bob Jensen, W0WLN, returning to the duties of Secretary and Treasurer after a 12-month hiatus from those coveted positions, our association's records and funds are in good hands and have already been examined and updated to their specification. I will be appointing an audit committee for the annual financial record check. The committee may have a report for our January 25, 2000 meeting. The meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 25th beginning at 7:30 p.m. at the Red Cross Building, 4521 Taylor Avenue in Racine. We will discuss the moving of our 440 machine from the Explorer Post in Kenosha to spot still to be determined on the West Side of Racine. This and a few other topics of concern to our members are scheduled. I can not say at this time, because I not sure. But there will be a few tidbits.

Preceding our event at 6:00 p.m., members and other interested folks are invited to attend the Racine ARES meeting. John Rusfeldt, KA9RZL, will discuss in detail how Amateur Radio ties into Southeastern Wisconsin's emergency preparedness plan. And he may share with us any Y2K problems that may have occurred in the area.

lems that may have occurred in the area.

Parking for both meeting will be in back of the building. Enter through the glass door on the East Side of the large overhead garage door.

Our Annual Ham Banquet is scheduled for Saturday, March 18, 2000 at the Racine Yacht Club, 2 Hubbard Street, on Racine's lakefront. The meal will be buffet style with three entrees, Tenderloin tips, roasted turkey, and a pasta-meat dish. Cost per person is \$18.00. A list of door prizes and other details will be available on a soon-to-be-constructed flyer that will be handed out at all our Southeastern Wisconsin ham gatherings during the first two months of Y2K. Immediate details are available from our Banquet Chair, Kathy Madson, N9ZWN, or myself. Mark your calendars and plan to attend. Our purpose is to honor area hams who have contributed to Amateur Radio and our communities. If you know any of these deserving Amateur Radio operators, please jot down the reasons you think they are deserving and email, FAX or snail mail them to me so they may be recognized. For additional details contact Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO, by FAX at 262-639-3320 or email at <wa9jmo@wi.net>.

73,  
Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO,  
President

### BSSS gets a tardy mark; Ham radio restructuring close

• Our December issue went into the mail late, and we apologize, folks. I completed my section on time, but K9EN wasn't able to meet the deadline because of several factors, primarily his work. We'll try to avoid a recurrence. Ken's work takes him all over the southern half of the state, from Cleveland to Platteville to Stevens Point to Waupun and heaven only knows where else. The best way to help us to be on time is to have all material to us either on schedule, or, if possible, a little early.

• Word is that Amateur Radio's restructuring will likely be a done deal by the time you are reading this. Those who have internet can keep up with that by going to <<http://www.arrrl.org>>. We'll have in-depth coverage in February.



### OUR WANT ADS GET RESULTS

FOR SALE: Cleaning the shack. All items sold as is.

- Old B/W TV set \$1.00
- CDE rotor control Model Ham II/CD44 \$3.00
- Heathkit model HD-15 phone patch \$4.00
- New Tronics SWR meter model C-M 52 \$4.00
- Very old series 912 Dynamics Electrometer (tube checker) \$5.00
- One box of hundreds of old radio knobs \$5.00
- Antenna selector switch, 5 position \$5.00
- Camel headphones GE-303 \$5.00
- Micronta LCD digital multimeter \$10.00
- Astatic mike model D-104 \$20.00
- Icom IC2-AT 2M transceiver, receives but will not transmit \$20.00
- Vo-Comm amplifier (2M) No. 2C-050 \$25.00
- Kenwood mike MC-50 \$40.00
- Mirage amplifier (2M) SSB-FM \$45.00
- Kenwood remote VFO model 230 \$50.00
- Kenwood antenna tuner

- 20-200 watts \$100.00
- Atlas 210X transceiver with manual and power supply \$150.00
- Dentron Clipperton-L linear amplifier. Uses four tough but economical 572-B triodes in grounded grid for a full 1000 watts DC on CW, and 2000 watts PEP input on SSB. Wired for 234 VAC, but can be changed to 117 VAC if desired. Covers 160-10 meters. \$250.00

Total: \$756.00

The first \$680.00 will take the whole works. Pickup only, no shipping. To my knowledge, all works unless stated otherwise. If it doesn't, I'll gladly refund your money.

Bob Johnson, WB9EIW, N6646 Fawn Circle, Pardeeville, WI 53954.  
Tel: (608) 742-6460.  
Email: wb9eiw@centurytel.net. □

## Maxim Nominations

Continued from page 5

WB3IOS, at ARRL Headquarters.

An award panel will review the nominations received and select the winner. The prize consists of a cash award of \$1000, a suitably engraved plaque, and travel and accommodation expenses to enable the winner to attend an ARRL convention for a formal presentation.

Nominations should document as thoroughly as possible the Amateur Radio achievements and contributions of the nominee during the previous calendar year. Additional information concerning the character of the nominee should be as complete as possible.

The award is intended to provide a tangible reward

to those deserving young amateurs who contribute their time, skills and energy daily through their commitment to Amateur Radio.

Nominations go to Section Managers, who should review and forward nominations to Jean Wolfgang, WB3IOS, at ARRL Headquarters by March 31, 2000. There is no limit to the number of nominations a Section Manager may make.

Elisabeth Price, KC8ALW, of Worthington, Ohio, was the winner of the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Award for 1998.

For information and a nomination form visit <<http://www.arrrl.org/field/awards/hpm.html>> or contact Jean Wolfgang, WB3IOS, jw Wolfgang@arrrl.org; 860-594-0219; or write her at ARRL Headquarters, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.

The ARRL Letter



## SHEBOYGAN County Amateur Radio Club

Sky Borkenhagen, N9XRU, Secretary  
N6466 Plank Circle • Glenbeulah WI 53023

**2-Meter Repeater: 147.06 Output**

The December meeting of the Sheboygan County Amateur Radio Club was called to order by the club President Steve, N9TRK at 7 p.m. local time. There were 7 members present at the meeting. The SCARC meets every second Tuesday of the month at the Red Cross building, 2032 Erie Ave., Sheboygan.

The treasurer's report was given by Mike, K9SJ, showing a current balance of \$900.30 in the checking account. Mike also reminded members the cut off for annual dues is January 11th.

Further plans were discussed for the basement project. The Y2K stand by scheduled from 10 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. on New Years Eve was discussed and plans were made for operations. The meeting concluded at 8:30 p.m.

Each Saturday at 8 a.m., you are invited to join us at the following venues:

1st Saturday - Jumes, Sheboygan

2nd Saturday - Highway Bakery at Hwys J and 42

3rd Saturday - Jumping Jacks, Kohler Sports

### Core

4th Saturday - Parkside Restaurant, Sheboygan Falls

5th Saturday - Farm Hill Restaurant, Cty V and OK

See yellow pages for addresses and phone numbers.

Steve, N9TRK adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

To sign up for the Sheboygan Hams e-mail list, submit your address to <julian@bongo.tele.com>. All messages sent to this address will be forwarded to all listed subscribers. Thank you, N6ARE, for providing this service.

Postal address: SCARC, P.O.Box 1282, Sheboygan, WI 53082-1282.

### NET SCHEDULE

8 p.m. Monday night, SCARC Fun Net, 147.060, PL107.2+

Respectfully submitted:  
Sky Borkenhagen, N9XRU

## Wisconsin Association of Repeaters

Mark Heimmermann, KF9CS, Secretary  
1523 E. Moonbeam Tr. • Appleton, WI 54915



December 11, 1999

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 p.m. by the Chairman, Gary Bargholz. It was held at Gulliver's Restaurant in Neenah, Wisconsin.

Introduction of members and guests:

KF9CS, Mark Heimmermann  
Sharon Heimmermann  
KG9OZ, Ernie Swanson  
WB0WOT, Scot E. Thompson  
N9GDY, Harry Hartmann

KF9ZU, Bette Kratz  
N9TD, Arthur J. Kratz  
K9IK, Pat Latour  
KB9OWC, David Campion  
W9RIC, Rick Kosiorek  
W9IEI, Greg Schneider  
KB9QXJ, Mark Strand  
N9VSV, Jeananne Bargholz  
N9UUR, Gary Bargholz  
KA9FUR, Dave Karr  
N9RSU, Leroy Dirk Sr.  
K9OQO, Jim Sheetz  
WA9JOB, Nels Harvey

### Secretary's Report

There were no additions or corrections to the minutes. A motion was made to accept the minutes of the last meeting as printed in the newsletter. The motion was seconded and approved by the members present.

### Treasurer's Report

Jim prefers that all dues be paid by check and made out to the Wisconsin Association of Repeaters.

Balance on 09/11/1999 \$2949.57  
Balance on 12/11/1999 \$2789.79

Nels, WA9JOB, made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. It was seconded by Harry Hartmann, N9GDY, and approved by the members present.

### Frequency Coordinator

The WAR database has been sent to the ARRL for next year's Repeater Directory. Dan has settled into his new home in Florida and enjoying his retirement. Dan will continue providing support and direction as the new frequency coordinator comes up to speed.

Some of the problems facing the new frequency coordinator include: allocation of 2 meters, locating spectrum for new coordinations, support and enhancement of the

## Silent Key

HARVARD D. HAMER, K9-YHO, 83, of Baraboo, died Wednesday, December 16, 1999.

Harv was a founding member and the first president of the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club of Baraboo. He was active in teaching ham radio courses for ten years, and was an Elmer to many new hams.

Harv was a TV and electronics technician for Satterfield Electronics (Madison, WI) and managed several of their stores in the area. He was also a production supervisor at Soiltest in Baraboo for ten years. He served his country in the U.S. Navy during WW II, having taught courses in military radio repair at Corpus Christi Naval Air Station and Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.

Memorial services were Saturday, December 18 in Baraboo, and he was interred in Greenwood Cemetery in Dalton.

He is survived by his wife, Dorothy, two sons, and many other relatives and friends.

The "Yellow Haired Ostrich" will be missed.

## RED CEDAR REPEATER ASSOCIATION, INC.

STEVE HART, KA9OMC, SECRETARY

E616 810TH AVENUE

KNAPP, WI 54749

**2-Meter Repeater: 146.01 Input/146.61 Output**

Greetings, RCRA sponsors and guests.

Welcome to year 2000!

There is much news from neighboring Albertville, where N9ISN, Al Schlaugat and YL Donna report daughter Jamie is now KB9UIC. That makes three of four licensed amateurs in their family. The N9ISN DX Packetcluster will be moving to the new 180 foot tower at his home soon, which recently acquired the WA9PAM/R owned by Ron Anderson of Chippewa Falls. The access for the DX cluster is N9ISN or PCEAU on 145.51 MHz at 1200 baud packet. The cluster is linked to the Midwest DX "Mega-cluster" through La Crosse with vert stable connections. WA9PAM/R operates on 444.350 MHz, and has had reports from a 45-mile radius. Ron expects to use other equipment on the system soon which should improve the already good performance.

KB9LUK, James Kinney at Eau Galle, has applied for 448.475/443.475 MHz pair and is waiting for the thirty-day WAR approval.

The Foundation for Amateur Radio will again be granting scholarships for amateurs who are seeking continuing education beyond high school. Get the details and application form from FAR Scholarships, P.O. Box 831, Riverdale, MD 20738. Application must be postmarked prior to April 30, 2000.

The RCRA has received about 25 pledges to date for the new year sponsorship of the repeater. If you are able to support the system, we suggest a \$15 individual support, or family at \$20. If you would like a monthly copy of the *Badger State Smoke Signals* newsletter, add \$10.

KB9LUF and KB9TAC, John and Andy Wagner at Cedar Falls, bagged 4 and a 5

point bucks on opening deer hunting day.

NQ9X, Ed Van Sickle at Whitehall, has coined a new phrase, "Wheels on Meals".

When we last saw K9RRU, Bob Spinti at Menomonie, he had in hand a wood dowel that was going to be turned in his lathe.

Please plan on attending the club auction February 22, 2000 at the American Legion Post 53 at 634 Water Street, Eau Claire, WI. Auction time is 7 p.m. sharp. Doors will open at 6 p.m. for you to set up your items. Equipment should pertain to the electronics hobby. Please mark all items with some identification and what you will accept for a minimum bid. Some snacks and coffee will be provided. W9QAH, Bruce Walther, will auction your items to the highest bidder. The RCRA is not responsible for any loss. Keep track of your stuff. All sales are final, and we will auction what time will allow. Admission is \$3 or paid year 2000 RCRA support. The RCRA will retain 10% of all sales to offset expenses. Come to buy, sell, or just have fun. See you at the Eau Claire auction.

Word from W9QAH, Bruce Walther, is that a visit to the hospital in the Twin Cities yielded him much better health and he expects to have some back troubles corrected soon. Good health to "Auction Bruce".

The next social hour is scheduled for January 25 at 1414 9th Street Peppermill Restaurant in the L-Mart shopping mall, Menomonie. Meeting time is 7:30 p.m. and we will be looking for helpers for the auction in February.

Steve Hart,  
KA9OMC  
Secretary/Treasurer

## Quarter Century Wireless Association Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter 162

Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO  
5400 Six Mile Road  
Racine, WI 53402

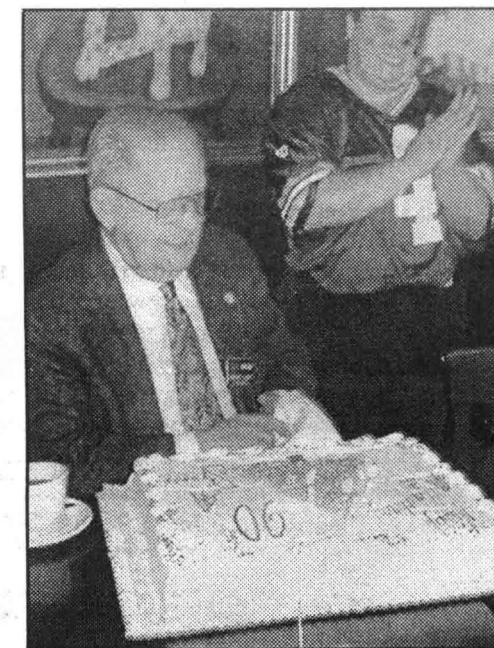


On the second Sunday in December 1999, QCWA Chapter 162 gather at the Chancery Restaurant in Kenosha to celebrate the holiday season and the 90th anniversary of the birth of our outgoing president, Spencer Clope, W9LDH (see photo). A fine meal, stimulating conversation and an exchange of gifts preceded the birthday bash. Spence reached that plateau on Thanksgiving Day, November 25, 1999. Here's hoping the next 90 years are just as grand!

Our next meeting is scheduled for 7:30 p.m., Monday, January 17, 2000 at the Meadows Restaurant in Franksville. Our activity calendar for Y2K will be handed out, along with committee appointments.

We have two new event endeavors for this year. The first is an Activity Panel whose members will be asked to research tasks that the chapter may wish to get involved in. The second is the hosting of the International QCWA Convention on a cruise ship in October of 2001. We have offered to host this event, but the board has not granted the request as yet. This represents a major change in how these conventions have taken place in the past. We are waiting word from the International Board as this goes to press. As you can see, there is nothing to worry about; everyone will receive at least one committee appointment.

Our Ham Banquet is scheduled for Saturday, March 18, 2000 at the Racine Yacht Club. The meal will be served buffet style at \$18 per person. Detailed flyers will be handed out at all area meetings during the months of January, February and early March with reservation information, agenda



times and meal menu items listed. We will be looking for nominations of area Hams who have contributed significantly to our hobby and their communities for the years 1998 and 1999. Specifically the Olie Fox, K9AKG Award of Excellence, Ham of the Year and the Ten-Year Achievement Award. Please send your narrative nominations to Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO, 5400 Six Mile Road, Racine, WI 53402, FAX (262) 639-3320, or email to <wa9jmo@wi.net>.

73,  
Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO



## Wisconsin Association of Repeaters

Continued from page 8

WAR database, delivering data to surrounding states and the ARRL "Repeater Directory".

WAR greatly appreciates the commitment from two volunteers who offered to fill Dan's suspenders. They are: Dave Karr, KA9FUR, and Leroy Dirk Sr., N9RSU.

Dave Karr was appointed as the new frequency coordinator. As of 12/11/1999, all coordination should be sent to Dave Karr, KA9FUR. Dave's address is: Dave Karr, KA9FUR, S64 W24740 Susan St. Waukesha WI 53189. <ka9fur@arrl.net>. Voice, (262) 513-0150; FAX (262) 513-0169.

### Chairman

Gary told us that Dave, WA9POV, had been sick for a while and is improving. Everyone wished Dave a quick recovery.

### NFCC/MACC

Nels gave a report on the NFCC. It does not look like the petition for rule making will be submitted to the FCC. Instead they are looking into a side letter or Memo Of

Understanding (MOU). The MOU will not require any rule changes. A future meeting is planned for Gettysburg.

Nels mentioned the situations in Indiana between the IRC and MISMA. Things have not improved much in recent months. We also discussed the recent events with SCRUBA in southern California.

If anyone has a grievance or suggestion, attend one of the WAR meetings or contact a board member.

### Old Business

None.

### New Business

We discussed other places where WAR might have a meeting. Some places named were: Madison, Fond du Lac or Eau Claire. If you have any suggestions and can make arrangements for a new meeting place contact one of the board members.

The next meeting is the annual election of officers. It will be March 11, 2000 at Titledown Brewing Company, 200 Dousman Street, Green Bay, WI.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted  
Mark Heimmermann (KF9CS)  
Wisconsin Association of Repeaters,  
Secretary

## Wisconsin Nets Association Ltd.

Bette Kratz, KF9ZU, Secretary  
950 E. Trout Valley Rd. • Friendship WI 53934-9672

## WISCONSIN NETS

Net	WNA	Freq.	UTC	CST	Manager
BWN	Yes	3985	1200	0600	W9RCW
BEN	Yes	3985	1800	1200	KE9VU
WSBN	Yes	3985	2330	1730	WB9WHQ
WNN	Yes	3723	0000	1800	KB9OCZ
WSSN	Yes	3645	0030	1830	N9BDL
WIN/E	Yes	3662	0100	1900	WB9ICH
WIN/L	Yes	3662	0400	2200	W9UW
RCRA	No	01/61 (Mondays CDT)	0130 (Menomonee Area)	1930	KA9OMC
Gr. Bay	No	72/12	0345 (Green Bay Area)	2145	WB9NRK
ARES	No	4.65/5.25 (South East/South Central Wisconsin)	0300	2100	
RACES	No	3993.5	1500 (LSB Sunday)	0900	WA9OAY

### Wisconsin STM Report November 1999

The traffic nets in Wisconsin are, first, for traffic handling. Our nets are not just roundtable discussions. True, they're also a great place to do some visiting, check antennas, keep up friendships, get questions answered, but the best way to test our traffic system is to generate and handle messages. If the radiograms bring holiday greetings, information to other hams, congratulations, weather reports, or data on how well the system is working, it doesn't matter. What matters is that we handle the messages efficiently as well as build the strength of our network. It is also good to learn names, voices, fists, and techniques of other operators on the nets - not just to have them as friends, but because such knowledge is helpful in times of emergency. We want to keep getting better at what we do.

To keep the nets working well, we could use some more Net Control Stations. Lots of times the regular NCS just can't be there, has rig trouble, thunder storms, or the like. On both our phone and CW nets, we could use more Net Control Stations -- not only to run the nets and keep the system functioning, but to add to the pool of experienced operators from which to draw in times of need. So here's how to prepare yourself ahead of time so you'll be ready when the time comes.

(1.) Become familiar with the other stations on the net. Knowing correct call signs, names, and locations is a good idea. Even if you never perform as an NCS, it's always good to know with whom you're working and where they live. Check out the Routing Guide at Eboard.com (enter WNA). You can also enter:

<<http://www.wna.eboard.com>>.

(2.) Make some notes. Pay close attention to the stations that go off frequency to pass traffic. What frequencies does the net use to move traffic? Up to 95? Down to 77? UP 4? DWN 5? Usually the NCS knows the open spots, where adjacent nets are, etc. You'll get a feel for the NCS action by keeping track of what's happening.

(3.) Try to guess what the NCS will do next. Sometimes, different types of traffic will appear on a net and the NCS will have to rank them in importance. For example, you may notice that out-of-state or "thru" traffic gets higher priority than a message bound for a city usually represented on the net. Of course, formal traffic will take precedence over "informal" exchanges.

(4.) Notice the order of things. Who's asked to check in first? Emergency and priority traffic holders? 9RN representative? Listen for the jargon, the pacing, and the phrases that make things flow. "Additional stations please call . . ." "NEED MKE, LAX, QNI K" Under poor conditions, hear how the NCS has the station holding the

traffic and the receiving station establish contact on the net frequency before moving.

When the time arrives, you'll be ready to be a good NCS. Please QNG.

73, K9LGU/STM

### NOVEMBER NET ACTIVITY SUMMARY NET QNI QTC QTR SSNS NM

BWN 1430 1906 2250 30 W9IHW FOR W9RCW  
BEN 573 84 845 29 KE9VU  
WSBN 533 59 805 28 WB9WHQ  
WNN 146 24 366 30 KB9ROB FOR KB9OCZ  
WSSN 231 30 335 30 N9BDL  
WIN/E 251 92 319 30 WB9ICH  
WIN/L 200 48 313 30 W9UW

### STATION ACTIVITY SUMMARY November 1999

### STATION ORIG RCVD SENT DLVD TOTAL

K9JPS 0 513 39 333 885 -BPL  
W9RCW 0 429 39 307 775 -BPL  
W9IHW 0 351 38 188 577 -BPL  
K9GU 0 313 28 203 544 -BPL  
W9YPY 0 253 285 0 538 -BPL  
N9TVT 1 139 327 1 468  
W9CBE 0 130 120 2 252  
K9LGU 0 62 37 2 101  
N9BDL 0 26 70 0 96  
W9UW 0 57 32 1 90  
W9YCV 2 28 46 9 85  
K9FHI 2 19 61 0 82  
AG9G 0 12 52 6 70  
N9CK 5 27 27 0 59  
KE9VU 0 23 32 0 55  
KB9QPM 2 2 34 0 38  
KG9B 0 3 34 0 37  
KB9ROB 0 32 3 2 37  
AA9BB 0 1 33 0 34  
K9HDF 0 1 32 0 33  
KA9KLZ 0 0 32 0 32  
W9BHL 0 0 32 0 32  
WB9NRK 0 3 26 2 31  
WB9ICH 0 22 5 2 29  
WZ7V 0 0 28 0 28  
N9JIY 1 3 13 2 19  
W9ODV 0 0 19 0 19  
KA9FVX 0 2 13 1 16  
K9UTQ 0 1 2 1 4  
W9PVD 0 1 2 0 3

### P S H R SUMMARY -NOVEMBER 1999 CALL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 TL

W9RCW 29 0 0 307 0 30 0 0 366  
K9FHI 60 24 24 0 2 30 0 30 170  
W9YCV 60 24 24 9 2 20 0 0 139  
N9BDL 60 24 24 0 0 30 0 0 138  
K9LGU 60 24 24 2 0 20 0 0 130  
W9CBE 60 24 24 2 0 20 0 0 130  
N9TVT 60 24 24 1 1 10 0 0 120  
AG9G 60 24 18 6 0 10 0 0 118  
N9KHD 60 24 24 1 0 0 0 0 109  
KA9KLZ 60 12 0 0 0 30 0 0 102  
KA9FVX 30 3 0 1 0 10 0 0 44

## EDITORIAL

Yup, now there are two "versions" of *Badger State Smoke Signals*. Those are the one you are reading right now and the one on the web at bss.org.

So, why an editorial? To put to rest questions and speculation about this version - the printed one.

Here's the story: The print version will continue for two years. If something changes, it could run longer than that.

There is a certain risk in putting all the eggs in one basket as the old and tired metaphor teaches us.

Not everyone has InterNet - not yet. So, to discontinue the print version would short-change those individuals. And, we publish material in this version you won't find on the web edition, either. That works both ways, actually.

The web edition is off to a great start, with an average 40 VISITS (not hits) a day, and visits are the true measure.

But know what? All the stuff we put in the web edition can be found elsewhere on the web, just in a bunch of different places. Yes, the web edition will continue, but I question its value. At least for the time being.

Something else: Why are newspapers all over expanding production facilities? Count in South Central Wisconsin Newspapers, Madison Newspapers, Inc., and the Chicago Tribune. To those you can add Perry-Judd and Quad Graphics, which print the "slick"

stuff, like ad stuffers and major magazines. Clearly, the InterNet is *not* hurting "conventional" media. More likely, it is supplementing it.

So, I feel we have a quandary here, and I am not sure how to deal with it. With that uncertainty, we will do as we have been for at least two years: two versions, one print, the other electronic. In the next two years, we should have a much better feel for how to proceed.

The web edition was made possible with the help of several wonderful people - good friends - who believe in what BSSS is and does for Wisconsin's Amateur Radio community. I don't believe they'd care much for public thanks, so I'll leave it at this. They know who they are, and there isn't a better bunch anywhere. Rick Lindquist, N1RL, has been kind, too, giving us a "brief" in the ARRL Letter and in the Web Extra. The site counter was very busy several days after those mentions.

We'll keep the urgent stuff posted to the web as quickly as we can. But most likely, the same stories with more details will then follow in the print edition.

Thanks to all our loyal readers for your encouragement and support. It does not go unnoticed.

Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ  
Editor  
Badger State  
Smoke Signals



## VARI-NOTCH® DUPLEXERS FOR 2 METERS

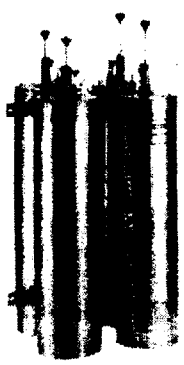
The TX RX Systems Inc. patented Vari-Notch filter circuit, a pseudo-bandpass design, provides low loss, high TX to RX, and between-channel isolation, excellent for amateur band applications. TX RX Systems Inc. has been manufacturing multicoupling systems since 1976. Other models available for 220 and 440 MHz, UHF ATV and 1.2 GHz.

### MODEL 28-37-02A

144-174 MHz  
92 dB ISOLATION AT 0.6 MHz SEPARATION  
400 WATT POWER RATING

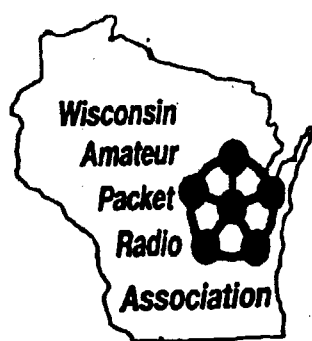
### TX RX SYSTEMS INC.

Dave Barquist, K9PAK, Factory Representative  
414-367-2929 or E-Mail [txrx@electpducts.com](mailto:txrx@electpducts.com)



19" RACK MOUNT

Coming in February's print edition of BSSS: Another Testy, Truly Tough, Terribly Terrific Quiz!



# THE WISCONSIN PACKETEER

Wisconsin Amateur Packet Radio Association  
Allen Schnepf, NØGMJ, Treasurer  
Ogema, WI 54459

Andy Nemec, KB9ALN, Editor • 453 Cottage Grove Avenue • Green Bay, WI 54304 • e-mail: kb9aln@juno.com

## WAPR News - January, 2000

Happy New Year! I hope that yours was an uneventful one with no Y2K troubles. And I hope that you continue to have a safe and happy New Year, full of peace and prosperity.

In December, the packet community was active, and we have seen an arrival, and a few departures.

First, the arrival of a new node. The new backbone node in Door County, #446DC:W9AIQ-9 is on the air! Jim, WA9ARB sent me an E-Mail note announcing the birth of the new node, and so far, it works great. It will help to provide a more reliable link to the Door peninsula LAN nodes.

Previous to this, the two Door county nodes, WIDC:W9AIQ-1 and WISTB:W9AIQ-7 were only accessible through the LAN node in Algoma, W1ALG:KE9LZ-8. Along with the good news, there is a bit of bad news connected with the Door county node system.

It seems that the WISTB site was broken into and the radio stolen. This leaves the people in the northern areas of Door county without a node temporarily. That makes for an awful long path back to WIDC, located in the southern part of the county. The Door County Amateur Radio Club plans to replace the radio and re-activate the node. I'll report here when WISTB once again lights up the air.

Another departure also makes the news, however this one is more voluntary in nature. Hawk, WA9KEC is taking his BBS off the air after 15 years of operation. He sent a packet message notifying everyone of the BBS closure, which was effective as of New Year's Eve. Hawk states the reason for the closure was that his interests have changed, and he wishes to move on to other things. The packet operators and BBS operators who have benefited from his 15 years of BBS Sysop'ing owe him a big Thanks and best wishes in whatever endeavors he undertakes.

Another BBS and a large associated node system will also be closing. Len, N9QIP notifies us that he has decided to pull the plug due to a low volume of messages and a lack of time. If you have read messages on your local BBS, there's a good chance that you have seen Len's call-sign in the forwarding path header.

Len's BBS did not see a large user base, but it's presence has been key to mail forwarding, especially in the southern parts of the state. At a time when there was very little of a pipeline to get messages in and out of Wisconsin, Len was there with his BBS and node system to get traffic flowing. He now feels that there are enough alternate paths and the investment in time is not worth the results.

Along with the BBS, I mentioned nodes. There were two differing systems, and as I mentioned earlier, there were quite a few that Len constructed to support mail forwarding. These also will be gone, and the changes have already been seen. As of this writing, a few have been deactivated, and as soon as Len can find the time to visit all of the associated sites, the remainder will go silent.

Along with the nodes used for mail forwarding, the status of the ARES nodes that Len constructed will change, although exactly how is not yet known. Some of these were constructed by Len at his own expense, and they will be either sold to the highest bidder, or donated to responsible entities if the situation is favorable. It is Len's hope that they remain on the air so that packet connectivity to the Division of Emergency Management in Madison remains possible for ARES and RACES groups within reach of the ARES network on 145.610 MHz.

Note that some of these nodes were owned and operated by Len, but not all of them. Some were owned by ARES organizations, and their status is not immediately known. One can assume that they will remain on the air, as well.

Len deserves thanks for his efforts to keep mail forwarding alive in Wisconsin at a time when mail forwarding was getting awfully tough. We hope he fares well in his future endeavors and takes pride in the work he

has accomplished for a lot of packet operators in Wisconsin.

One additional note on this. Many of you may know that Len has been associated with the Wisconsin Interstate Network. This organization has been active in the packet world, and you may recognize Len as one of its most visible members. Take note that this departure of Len from the packet radio scene does not mean that W.I.N. is gone - the Wisconsin Interstate Network does more than involve itself in Packet Radio. It also supports an extensive voice repeater network, which will still be here, unchanged.

Len's departure will mean that some areas in the state, particularly the south-central and southwestern areas, may find a lack of nodes making some packet connections difficult. In a few cases, mail forwarding will become more difficult. WAPR is now trying to fill in these gaps and help keep the Wisconsin packet network operational. Additionally, WAPR is committed to making certain that packet connectivity is maintained with the State Hamshack in Madison. As of this writing, we are working with the affected parties in an effort to see that this happens. We'll keep you posted on future developments concerning this situation.

This pretty well sums up the news for this month. Until next time, 73 from Andy.

## Linux and Packet Radio Part 4 By Andy Nemec, KB9ALN

In part 3 of our mini-series, we discussed the two methods you can use to put packet radio on your system with AX.25. One is kernel-based, meaning that AX.25 is built into the operating system. The other is application-based, which means that all AX.25 operation is done by a program without any unusual aid from the operating system.

Currently, the kernel-based AX.25 system is in the process of a re-write, and major changes are in the offing. Rather than give outdated information, we will be discussing an application program that will give you AX.25 capabilities - JNOS. Because of the large amount of information we'll present here, it will require presenting it

in two parts.

JNOS is one of the most popular packet radio programs, particularly with BBS operators. Don't let this scare you, though. It can be scaled back to suit your needs. You don't have to operate a big, powerful station if you don't want to. Although the capability is there, should you decide to go in that direction later.

### A Tiny Bit of History

JNOS is a packet radio program that was based on a program originally written by Phil Karn KA9Q, called NOS. It was originally written to run on the MS-DOS operating system, and was quite a change from what was available at the time. It was the first widely-available program that brought TCP/IP capabilities to amateur radio. It is also the basis for a number of other programs that have NOS in their name, JNOS included.

JNOS was originally customized by Johan Reinolda, WG7J. He later turned development over to James Dugal, N5KNX. It was later adapted to Linux through a cooperative effort with Brian Lantz KO4KS, the author of TNOS. JNOS has undergone very many refinements and enhancements over the years reflected in many versions. The version that we will be working with is the most current one that I know to be available, version 1.11d.

### Availability

JNOS is available from a number of sources, and in a couple of different forms. One form is the source code, that you compile by yourself into a binary executable program. Compiling a working program is no problem for the experienced Linux user and allows one to custom-tailor a version. For most people, another method is preferable. That is the Red Hat Package Manager file (RPM File), put together by Jose Marte, HI8GN. One word of caution, however. This RPM file is specifically constructed for Red Hat Linux version 5.2. By the time you read this, newer versions of the RPM file may be available for use with Red Hat Linux 6.0 and 6.2. While the installation

### WISCONSIN AMATEUR PACKET RADIO MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ CALL: \_\_\_\_\_ HOME PHONE: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME BBS: \_\_\_\_\_ FREQ: \_\_\_\_\_ (Listing your home BBS is important)

Your HOME BBS should be a full service BBS, not your TNC's mailbox.

MY PACKET STATION OPERATES: \_\_\_\_\_ DAY \_\_\_\_\_ NIGHT \_\_\_\_\_ 24HRS

I OPERATE A: \_\_\_\_\_ DIGIPEATER WITH ALIAS OF: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ FULL SERVICE BBS

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\_\_\_\_\_ YES I want to receive Badger State Smoke Signals and I understand that part of my dues goes to pay this subscription. cost \$20.00

\_\_\_\_\_ NO I do not wish to receive Badger State Smoke Signals as a part of my WAPR membership. Cost \$15.00

COMPLETE and return this form with your check or money order - \$15.00 membership only or \$20.00 membership and Badger State Smoke Signals. made payable to W.A.P.R. to:

Allen Schnepf, NØGMJ, Treasurer  
W5000 SR 86  
PO Box 558  
Ogema, WI 54459



process may be slightly different for newer versions of Red Hat, the configuration of this version of JNOS will remain unchanged. Sources for JNOS, the RPM package manager, the JNOS RPM file itself and the documentation package (it is not included in the RPM file) are listed at the end of this article.

#### Beginning

Instruction on the installation process are documented fairly well in both methods of installation, and we do not have the space to cover that here. We will start by presuming that you have JNOS installed and are ready to configure it.

Before you actually start configuration, you need to know a few things about the capabilities of JNOS and how to manage them. JNOS uses a system of servers and clients to support particular functions. For example, JNOS has a World Wide Web sever available, if you wish to use the capability. You are not forced into using JNOS as a "super-server BBS" if you don't want to. In order to determine what you may need in your system, it is helpful to discuss what these servers are and what they do. Some of them only relate to using TCP/IP over packet radio, and to use them, you will need an IP address different from that of your Linux host. Here's a list of servers and clients, with a short description of what they do:

#### ax25

This one you'll need. This is the AX.25 subsystem.

#### convers

This allows people to participate in a "roundtable", much like an Internet chat room. requires telnet and an IP address.

#### domain

This starts a process called a Domain Name Server. This matches a hostname (like kb9aln.ampr.org) to an IP address. Not needed if you do not plan to use TCP/IP, and then it is only needed if you plan to provide this service to other TCP/IP stations. You will need an IP address when using it.

#### finger

This allows people who connect to your station to pull a short information file on other users of the system, and allows you to do the same on other systems. If you plan on using TCP/IP on packet, you'll want to turn on this one. Requires you to also start the telnet server, and have an IP address.

#### ftp

This allows you to send and receive files without the aid of YAPP, 7Plus, or other file transfer programs. Not essential, but very convenient. Only works with TCP/IP stations, and you need an IP address to use it.

#### forward

This allows you to forward packet mail as a BBS. Again, not essential, but pretty nice if you send out a lot of mail to a BBS or to other folk's TNC mailboxes.

#### http

This is a web page server. It does not have a client associated with it. Not necessary, of course. I recommend you do not start this until you get totally familiar with it and wish to experiment with something new. Requires telnet to be started as well, and requires an IP address.

#### ident

Used optionally in the smtp system. Not essential in most cases.

#### netrom

The Net/Rom (TheNet) node system. Don't turn this on unless you are already a node operator, or are going to be one.

#### smtp

This is the internet-style mail handling system. Not essential if all you plan to do is exchange BBS and mailbox type mail. It is customary to turn it on when you run TCP/IP, and awfully convenient for automated delivery of mail to TCP/IP stations.

#### telnet

This allows you to remotely log on to a computer, and accept logins from remote computers. Users generally need a user name and password, similar to logging into a Linux computer. If you're running TCP/IP, this is one you will



## Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club

WB9FDZ (Original Club Call)  
K9ODK (Robert L. Prine Memorial Call)

Raymond J. Matlosz, N9MLZ, Secretary  
450 West 2nd Street • Reedsburg, WI 53959



The Dec 7, 1999 meeting of the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club, Inc. was called to order at 7:40 p.m. by Raymond Matlosz (N9MLZ), Club Vice President. A Treasurer's report was given by Bill Klinkner (N9KXX).

**OLD BUSINESS:** Bill Klinkner reminded everyone that the Christmas party will be Dec. 11, 1999 at his house. Hourderves will be served at 6:00 p.m. with dinner to follow at 7:00 p.m. Talk in for those who need it will be on 146.88. Pete Sweeney (WD9JIB) made a motion that the club pay for the dinner, George Gabay (N9QQR) seconded the motion. Club meetings will continue to be held on the first Tuesday of the month at the Baraboo Civic Center in room 18. It is that time of year again to remind everyone of the club dues which will remain at \$20.00.

**NEW BUSINESS:** A report on the progress of the club repeater was given by Bill Klinkner and Brad Pointon (KB9UMC). The antenna should be placed on the tower December 12th or 13th. The combining filters should arrive about the middle of January. With luck we should be operational by the end of January.

Pete Sweeney gave an update on the Emergency Government's preparations for Y2K. Several computers were given for use at the E.O.C. One will be used to set up a Packet Station.

BUCK NIGHT WINNER was Wayne Burgess.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday January 4th, 2000 at 7:30 p.m., room 18, Baraboo Civic Center.

The following members were present.

Leonard Wagner CLUB SECRETARY

Leonard Wagner	N9XJG	Baraboo
Art Kleefisch	W9WSS	Baraboo
Duane Grotophorst	N9DG	North Freedom
Jim Paul	N9LKY	Baraboo
Thomas Harrison	N9PQJ	Reedsburg
Peter Sweeney	WD9JIB	Reedsburg
George Gabay	N9QQR	New Lisbon
Raymond Matlosz	N9MLZ	Reedsburg
Bill Hommel	KA9QFJ	Baraboo
Bill Klinkner	N9KXX	Sauk City
Ann Klinkner	N9PQL	Sauk City
Patrick Klinkner		Sauk City

The following guests were present

Brad Pointon	KB9UMC	Baraboo
Carol Wagner		Baraboo

want. And you will need an IP address:

#### ttylink

A special form of telnet that does not require the login process, and allows you to chat keyboard-to-keyboard with other TCP/IP users. As with all other TCP/IP functions, you need an IP address different than the one assigned to your Linux system.

That is all we have time and space for this time out. While you are waiting for the next installment, check out these sources of information and programs:

To obtain JNOS sources and it's document packages:  
<ftp://pc.usl.edu/pub/ham/jnos>

To obtain the RPM version of JNOS:  
<http://lnx.hi8gn.ampr.org/pub/Linux/HamRadio/jnos>

To obtain the Red Hat Package Manager:  
<http://www.rpm.org>  
Until next time, 73 from Andy

### THE TEST POINT

(continued from page 4)

#### DUBUQUE, IOWA

Dubuque Hamfest. Contact: Carl Clark, N0KAX, 2145 Delicia Drive, Dubuque, IA 52001. (319) 557-9149.

#### ROCKFORD/LOVES PARK, IL

Third Saturday of every month. Northern Illinois Volunteer Examiners (W5YI VEC). Held at North Suburban District Library, 6340 North Second St. (Hwy. 251), Loves Park, IL. 9:00 a.m. to noon. No new applicants after 11:00 a.m. Walkins welcome. Contact: Rusty Cordell, WB9QYV, 1823 Hulin St., Rockford, IL 61102-2619. (815) 968-0080. e-mail WB9QYV@aol.com

#### MINNESOTA TEST INFORMATION

From The Ground Wave, Saint Paul Radio Club Saint Paul Radio Club (SPRC)  
TESTING: First Saturday of the month, 8:30 a.m. Contact: Ed VanCleave, W0VC, (612) 636-0108 Test Site: St. Paul Technical College 235 Marshall Ave. St Paul, MN

#### Anoka Amateur Radio Club (AARC)

TESTING: Second Saturday of the month, 9 a.m. Contact: Craig Johnson, AA0ZZ (612) 483-3143 Test Site: Blaine City Hall 9150 Central Ave NE Blaine, MN  
Bloomington Office of Emergency Management

#### Bloomington Amateur Radio Club (BARC)

TESTING: Fourth Saturday of the month, 9 a.m. Contact: Dan Royer, KE0OR (612) 888-9756 Test Site: Fire Station No. 1 94th St. & Nicollet Avenue S. Bloomington, MN

#### Valley Amateur Radio Club (VARC)

TESTING: Second Thursday of the month, 7 p.m. Contact: Bill Martin, AI0D (612) 432-0438 Test Site: Hayes Community Center 14601 Hayes Road Apple Valley, MN

#### W5YI Group

TESTING: Third Tuesday of the month, 6:30 p.m. Contact: Dave Ranney, N0AXL (612) 542-2553 Test Site: Eden Prairie Library 479 Eden Prairie Drive Eden Prairie, MN

#### SE Metro Area Radio Club (SEMARC)

TESTING: Third Saturday of the month, 9 a.m. Contact: Dave Harrell, K0BTE (612) 459-8678 Test Site: Cottage Grove fire Station 8641 80th ST. S Cottage Grove, MN.

The times and places listed above are the usual time and place for each VE team. Occasionally, sessions are canceled or changed. It is a good idea to call ahead to confirm the test time and place.

This section of Badger State Smoke Signals is available to publicize your Volunteer Examiner Amateur Radio license examination schedules. Please send us your schedules of dates, times, and locations that you will be conducting examinations and we will include the information here. Be sure to include contact address and any other necessary requirements. Information should be sent to [kebnetter@palacenet.net](mailto:kebnetter@palacenet.net).



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# SWAPFESTS



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**SATURDAY  
JANUARY 8, 2000**

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Richland Center

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## HAM IT UP EVERY SPRING! MADISON SWAPFEST

**April 9, 2000**

**Mandt Community Center**  
400 Mandt Parkway • Stoughton, WI  
Doors open at 8 a.m.

Sponsored by MARA/W9HSY  
P. O. Box 8890 Madison, WI 53708-8890  
Swapfest Information Line: (608) 245-8890

## SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB SWAPFEST 00

**July 8, 2000**

(Held every July)

**American Legion Park**

**Shepard Avenue • Oak Creek, WI**

(414) 762-3235 Extension: Ask for Verne  
P. O. Box 102 South Milwaukee, WI 53172

## SEWFARS SWAPFEST

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**SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 2000**

**8:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.**

**Setup Starts at 6:00 A.M.**

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## LAKESHORE HAMFEST AND COMPUTER SWAPFEST

**Manitowoc County Expo**

Intersection of Hwys 42-151 and I-43 on Cty Highway R

**Saturday, May 13, 2000**

For more information, call:

Red, N9GHE • (920) 84-3733

Dick, N9QFY • (920) 882-9264

ManCoRed Radio Club • P.O. Box 204 • Manitowoc, WI 54221-0204

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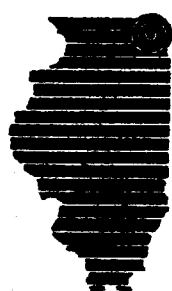
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www.ns9rc.org (847) 291-4160 jaf@lwt.net

## Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club W9EAU HAMFEST Saturday, June 10, 2000

For Information Contact:

Jim Staatz KG9MV at 715-838-9108

P.O. Box 1867 Eau Claire, WI 54702-1867

kg9mv@ecol.net http://www.ecarc.org

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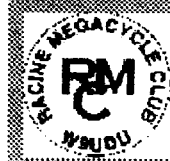
Mail:

P.O. Box 3  
Racine, WI 53401

Phone:  
262-552-6762

E-Mail:  
w9udu@w9udu.org

Contact us or keep  
checking our web  
site for details on  
upcoming events.



## Ozaukee Radio Club 22ND ANNUAL RADIO AND COMPUTER SWAPFEST Saturday, May 6, 2000

**8 a.m. to 1 p.m. • Circle B Recreation Center**

Intersection of Highway 60 and County I  
Exams by Badger Examiners, c/o Gary Sharbuno,  
5119 W. Willow Rd., Brown Deer, WI 53222

Swapfest sponsored by the Ozaukee Radio Club  
1702 Holly Lane, Grafton, WI 53024

## Circus City Swapfest

Sponsored by The Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club

**Saturday August 12, 2000 • 7 am - Noon**  
**Sauk County Fairgrounds • Baraboo, WI**

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Steve Schulze, N9UDO  
(608) 356-2313/356-4777  
<http://members.baraboo.com/sschulze/hamfest.htm>

Bill Klinkner, N9KXX  
(608) 643-6908/643-6453

Red Cedar Repeater Association, Inc.

## AUCTION

**February 22, 2000 • 7:00 p.m.**

**American Legion Post 53 • 634 Water Street**  
**Eau Claire, WI**

CONTACT:

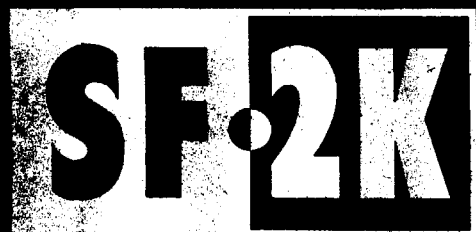
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